

REMARKS

This Amendment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.116(b) is submitted in reply to the final Office Action mailed on June 9, 2008. A petition for a two month extension of time is requested. The Director is authorized to charge \$490.00 for the two month extension of time and any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket No. 112843-76 on the account statement.

Claims 17-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1-11 were previously canceled. Claims 12-16 were previously withdrawn. Claims 17 and 21-22 are allowed. In the Office Action, the specification is objected to; and Claims 18-20 and 23-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. In response, Claims 18-20, 23 and 25 have been amended. The amendments do not add new matter. In view of the amendments and/or for the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections should be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, the specification is objected to and Claims 18-20 and 23-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. In response, Applicants have amended independent Claims 18-20, 23 and 25 to recite, in part, an osteoprotegerin including a glycosylation pattern giving rise to a polypeptide having a molecular weight of 130 kDa. The amendment is supported in the specification, for example, at page 5, lines 8-10 and Figure 2 and as admitted by the Patent Office. See Office Action, page 3, paragraph 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification and rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application and earnestly solicit an early allowance of same. In the event there remains any impediment to allowance of the claims which could be clarified in a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate such an interview with the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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